

PCT

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference (if desired) (12 characters maximum) 82RK102

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION

WRITING INSTRUMENT WITH INFLATABLE BLADDERS

Box No. II APPLICANT

☐ This person is also inventor

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence (if no State of residence is indicated below.)

JAKKS Pacific, Inc.
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Malibu, CA 90265

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:
U.S.A.

State (that is, country) of residence:
U.S.A.

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

☐ all designated States

☒ all designated States except the United States of America

☐ the United States of America only

☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence (if no State of residence is indicated below.)

Stephen Berman
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This person is:

☐ applicant only

☐ applicant and inventor

☒ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:
U.S.A.

State (that is, country) of residence:
U.S.A.

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

☐ all designated States

☐ all designated States except the United States of America

☒ the United States of America only

☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☐ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.

Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:

☒ agent

☐ common representative

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

Richard B. Klar
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Agent's registration No. with the Office
31,385

☐ Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.

Box No.V DESIGNATIONS

The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.

However,

- ☐ DE Germany is not designated for any kind of national protection
- ☐ KR Republic of Korea is not designated for any kind of national protection
- ☐ RU Russian Federation is not designated for any kind of national protection

(The check-boxes above may be used to exclude (irrevocably) the designations concerned in order to avoid the ceasing of the effect, under the national law, of an earlier national application from which priority is claimed. See the Notes to Box No. V as to the consequences of such national law provisions in these and certain other States.)

Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM

The priority of the following earlier application(s) is hereby claimed:

Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country or Member	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 13/12/2004	60/635,452	USA		
item (2)				
item (3)				

☐ Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.

The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of this international application is the receiving Office) identified above as:

- ☐ all items ☒ item (1) ☐ item (2) ☐ item (3) ☐ other, see Supplemental Box

* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, indicate at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or one Member of the World Trade Organization for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)):

Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) (if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):

ISA/EP

Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):

Date (day/month/year)

Number

Country (or regional Office)

Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS

The following declarations are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration):

Number of
declarations

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (i) | Declaration as to the identity of the inventor | : |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (ii) | Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent | : |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (iii) | Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application | : |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (iv) | Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America) | : |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (v) | Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty: | : |

Box No. IX CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING

This international application contains:	This international application is accompanied by the following item(s) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in right column the number of each item):	Number of items
(a) in paper form, the following number of sheets:	1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fee calculation sheet	:
request (including declaration sheets) : 3	2. <input type="checkbox"/> original separate power of attorney	:
description (excluding sequence listing and/or tables related thereto) : 4	3. <input type="checkbox"/> original general power of attorney	:
claims : 2	4. <input type="checkbox"/> copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any:	:
abstract : 1	5. <input type="checkbox"/> statement explaining lack of signature	:
drawings : 4	6. <input type="checkbox"/> priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s):	:
Sub-total number of sheets 14	7. <input type="checkbox"/> translation of international application into (language):	:
sequence listing :	8. <input type="checkbox"/> separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material	:
tables related thereto :	9. <input type="checkbox"/> sequence listing in computer readable form (indicate type and number of carriers)	:
(for both, actual number of sheets if filed in paper form, whether or not also filed in computer readable form; see (c))	(i) <input type="checkbox"/> copy submitted for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter only (and not as part of the international application) :	:
Total number of sheets : 14	(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> (only where check-box (b)(i) or (c)(i) is marked in left column) additional copies including, where applicable, the copy for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter :	:
(b) <input type="checkbox"/> only in computer readable form (Section 801(a)(i))	(iii) <input type="checkbox"/> together with relevant statement as to the identity of the copy or copies with the sequence listing mentioned in left column :	:
(i) <input type="checkbox"/> sequence listing	10. <input type="checkbox"/> tables in computer readable form related to sequence listing (indicate type and number of carriers)	:
(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> tables related thereto	(i) <input type="checkbox"/> copy submitted for the purposes of international search under Section 802(b-quater) only (and not as part of the international application) :	:
(c) <input type="checkbox"/> also in computer readable form (Section 801(a)(ii))	(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> (only where check-box (b)(ii) or (c)(ii) is marked in left column) additional copies including, where applicable, the copy for the purposes of international search under Section 802(b-quater) :	:
(i) <input type="checkbox"/> sequence listing	(iii) <input type="checkbox"/> together with relevant statement as to the identity of the copy or copies with the tables mentioned in left column :	:
(ii) <input type="checkbox"/> tables related thereto	11. <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify):	:
Type and number of carriers (diskette, CD-ROM, CD-R or other) on which are contained the		
<input type="checkbox"/> sequence listing:		
<input type="checkbox"/> tables related thereto:		
(additional copies to be indicated under items 9(ii) and/or 10(ii), in right column)		
Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract: FIG. 1	Language of filing of the international application: English	

Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE

Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).


Richard B. Klar
Registration Number 31,385

For receiving Office use only		2. Drawings: <input type="checkbox"/> received: <input type="checkbox"/> not received:
1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:		
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:		
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):		
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA/	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

For International Bureau use onlyDate of receipt of the record copy
by the International Bureau:

PCT

FEE CALCULATION SHEET

Annex to the Request

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

Date stamp of the receiving Office

Applicant's or agent's
file reference

82RK102

Applicant

JAKKS Pacific, Inc.

CALCULATION OF PRESCRIBED FEES

1. TRANSMITTAL FEE 300.00 **T**

2. SEARCH FEE 1,920.00 **S**

International search to be carried out by _____

(If two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the name of the Authority which is chosen to carry out the international search.)

3. INTERNATIONAL FILING FEE

Where item (b) and/or (c) of Box No. IX apply, enter Sub-total number of sheets } 14

Where item (b) and (c) of Box No. IX do not apply, enter Total number of sheets }

i1 first 30 sheets 1,134.00 **i1**

i2 0 x 0.00 **i2**
number of sheets in excess of 30 fee per sheet

i3 additional component (only if sequence listing and/or tables related thereto are filed in computer readable form under Section 801(a)(i), or both in that form and on paper, under Section 801(a)(ii)):

400 x **i3**
fee per sheet

Add amounts entered at i1, i2 and i3 and enter total at I 1,134.00 **I**

(Applicants from certain States are entitled to a reduction of 75% of the international filing fee. Where the applicant is (or all applicants are) so entitled,

4. FEE FOR PRIORITY DOCUMENT (if applicable) 20.00 **P**

5. TOTAL FEES PAYABLE 3,374.00

Add amounts entered at T, S, I and P, and enter total in the TOTAL box

TOTAL

MODE OF PAYMENT

- ☐ authorization to charge deposit account (see below) ☐ postal money order ☐ cash ☐ coupons
☒ cheque ☐ bank draft ☐ revenue stamps ☐ other (specify):

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE (OR CREDIT) DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

(This mode of payment may not be available at all receiving Offices)

- ☐ Authorization to charge the total fees indicated above.
☐ (This check-box may be marked only if the conditions for deposit accounts of the receiving Office so permit) Authorization to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the total fees indicated above.
☐ Authorization to charge the fee for priority document.

Receiving Office: _____

Deposit Account No.: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

WRITING INSTRUMENT WITH INFLATABLE BLADDERS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a writing instrument with inflatable bladders built into the barrel of the writing instrument to facilitate different sizes for a better and more comfortable gripping by a user. In particular, the present invention relates to a writing instrument where the built in bladders are inflated by pumping air into them. The writing instrument further includes a release mechanism for releasing excess air in the bladders.

2. The Prior Art

US Patent Publication 2004/0136769 to Ferrara relates to a cushioning element with a deformable bladder having a filling chamber of a particulate matter that is mounted on an article. The bladder is not however pumped with air.

US Patent 4,035,089 to Schwartz et al. relates a grip whose size is varied with an expander element carried by sleeve upon rotation of the sleeve. The bladder is mechanically increased rather than by pumping air.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore a principle object of the invention to provide a writing instrument having bladders built into the barrel of a writing instrument which can be inflated by

pumping air. In one embodiment the bladders can be inflated by clicking down on top of the writing instrument to inflate the bladders while placing one's finger over the top of the writing instrument. In another embodiment the bladders can be pumped themselves. A release button on the side of the writing instrument can be pressed to release excess air from the bladder.

Other objects of the invention will become clear and apparent from the foregoing description and accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a sectional view of the invention showing the clicker and pump handle;

FIG. 2 is a sectional view along lines A-A of FIG. 1 showing the compression spring;

FIG. 3A is another sectional view of the invention showing an air release button;

FIG 3B is a top view of FIG. 3A;

FIG. 4 A is a sectional view along lines B-B of FIG. 3A showing the one way valve;

FIG. 4B is a view along lines C-C of FIG 4A showing the air release mechanism;

FIG. 5A illustrates another feature of the invention in which release mechanism releases excess air from the bladders and shows the bladders in their un-inflated state;

FIG. 5B shows the invention of FIG. 5A with the bladders in their inflated state; and

FIG. 6A-D illustrates several different embodiments of bladders in their inflated states.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the drawings of FIGS. 1-6D, FIG. 1 shows the present invention which is comprised of a clicker and a pump handle 11, a compression spring 12, air way passages, a one way air valve 18, and air expandable bladders 16 are preferably formed of either rubber-like material or rubber material that are built into the barrel of the writing instrument.

The clicker and pump handle apparatus 11 can be pressed down by a user's finger to compress the spring 12 and pump air from the air way into the writing instrument's bladders 16 through the one way air valve 18 shown in FIGS. 4.A and 4B. Thereby inflating the air expandable bladders 16 so that the bladders go from the un-inflated state in FIG. 5 A to the inflated state in FIG. 5B.

In an alternate embodiment of the invention (not shown) the pump handle is

separate from the clicker for the writing instrument 10 but otherwise operates in the same fashion described FIG. 1. Alternatively both of these embodiments can have there bladders 16 filled with air by pressing the bladders 16 and pumping them fill with air.

FIG.3. shows a release mechanism 20 located on the side of the writing instrument 10 which when pressed and held releases air from the bladders 16 until the desired amount of air is retained within the bladders.16.

The bladders 16 can have various confirmations as shown in FIGS.6 A-D showing these different bladder embodiments in their inflated states.

I do not limit myself to any particular details of construction set forth in the specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, as the same refers to and sets forth only certain embodiments of the invention, and it is observed that the same may be modified without departing from the spirit and scope of the claimed invention.

CLAIMS

1. An air pump mechanism for a writing instrument, comprising:
 - a writing instrument ;
 - said writing instrument having a barrel; said barrel having bladders built in to said barrel;
 - a pumping mechanism for pumping air into said bladders, said pumping mechanism including an airway passage and a one way air valve for air to enter from said pumping mechanism into said bladders.
2. The air pump mechanism of claim1 wherein said pumping mechanism includes an integrated clicker and a pump handle.
3. The pumping mechanism of claim1 wherein said pumping mechanism includes a pump handle that is separate from a clicker for said writing instrument.
4. The pumping mechanism according to claim1 wherein said bladders are formed of rubber-like material.
5. The pumping mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said bladders are formed of rubber material.
6. The pumping mechanism according to claim1 wherein said bladders are formed of rubber material.

7. The pumping mechanism according to claim1 further comprising a release mechanism located on the side of the writing instrument for releasing excess air.

8. The pumping mechanism according to claim1 wherein said release mechanism includes a clip that when pressed and held into place against the side of the writing instrument presses a release button at the side of the writing instrument to release said excess air from said bladders

9. The pumping mechanism according to claim 1 wherein said bladders can be manually pumped by a user pressing and releasing said bladders to inflate said bladders with air.

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A writing instrument with inflatable bladders built into the barrel of the writing instrument to facilitate better and more comfortable gripping of the writing instrument by a user. The built in bladders are inflated by pumping air into them. The writing instrument further includes a release mechanism for releasing excess air in the bladders.

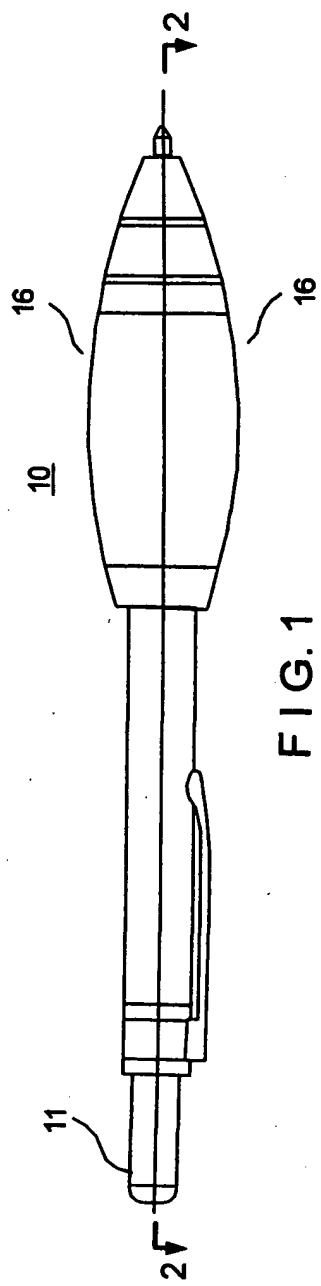


FIG. 1

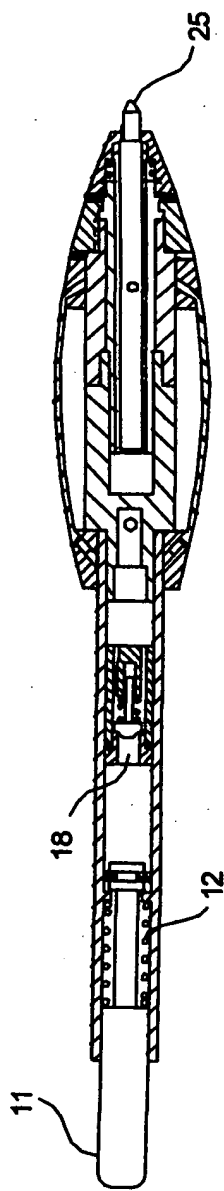


FIG. 2

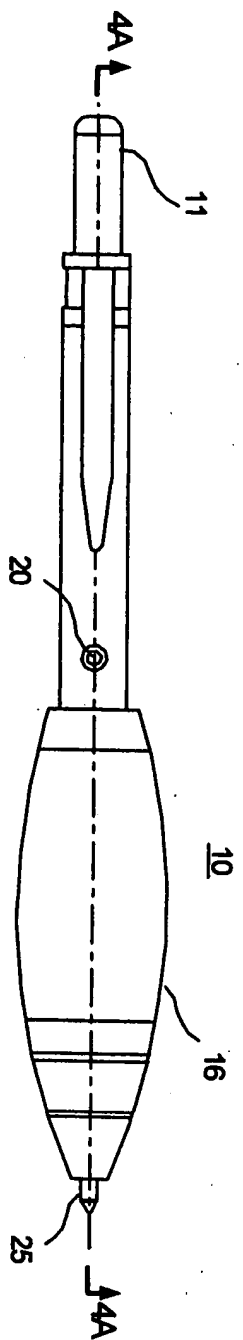


FIG. 3A

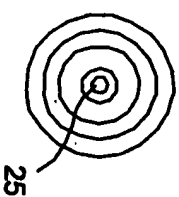


FIG. 3B

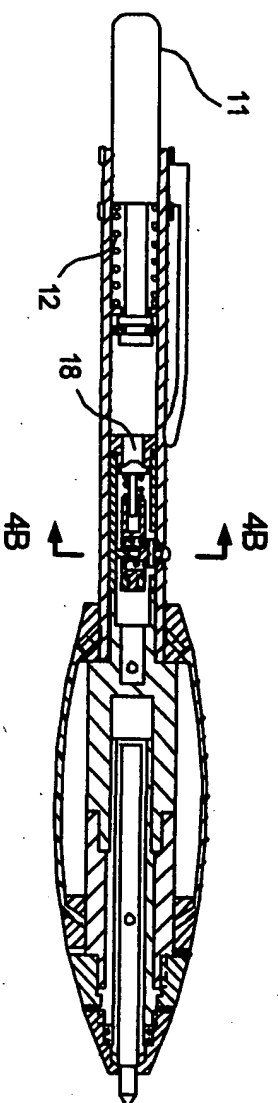


FIG. 4A

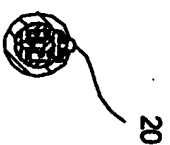
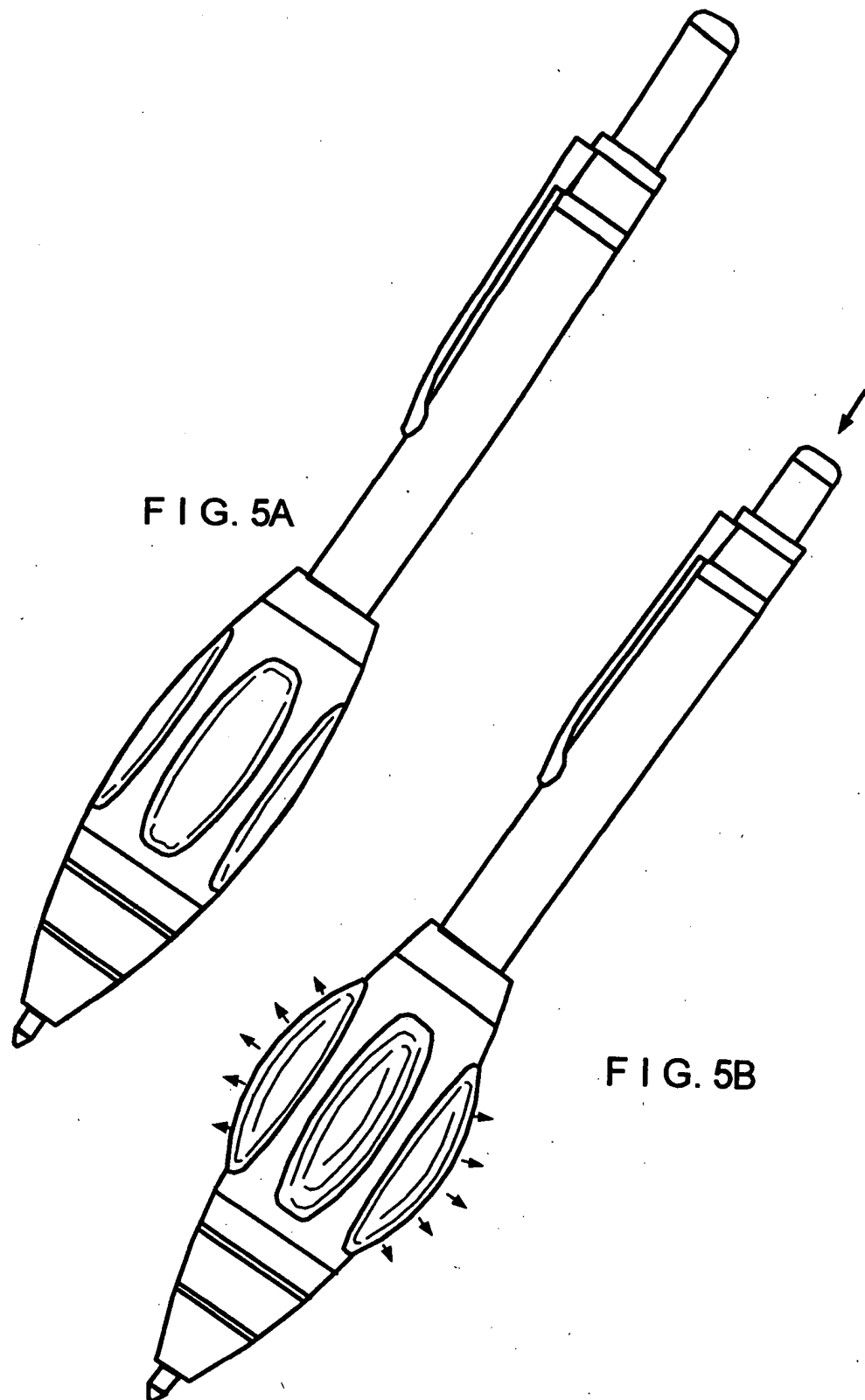


FIG. 4B



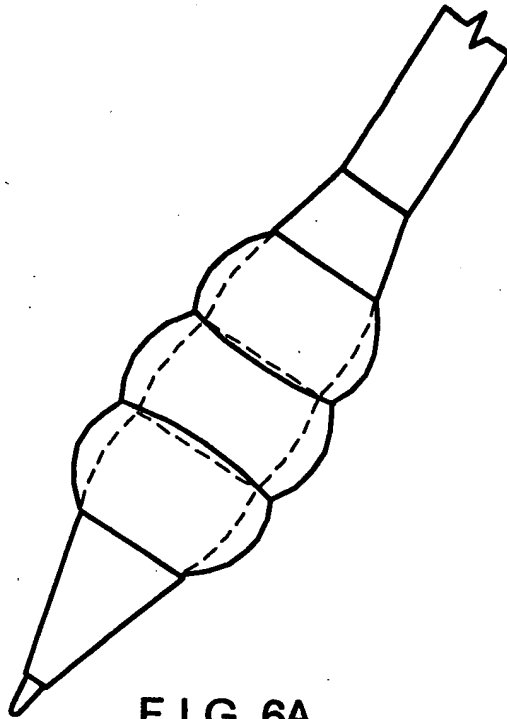


FIG. 6A

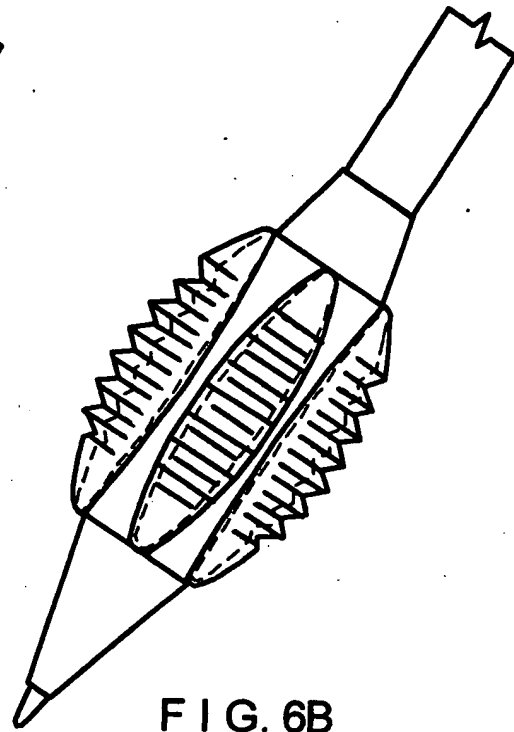


FIG. 6B

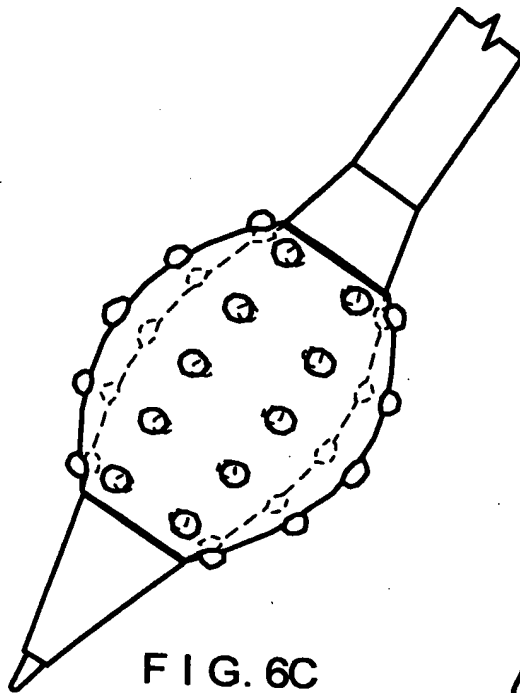


FIG. 6C

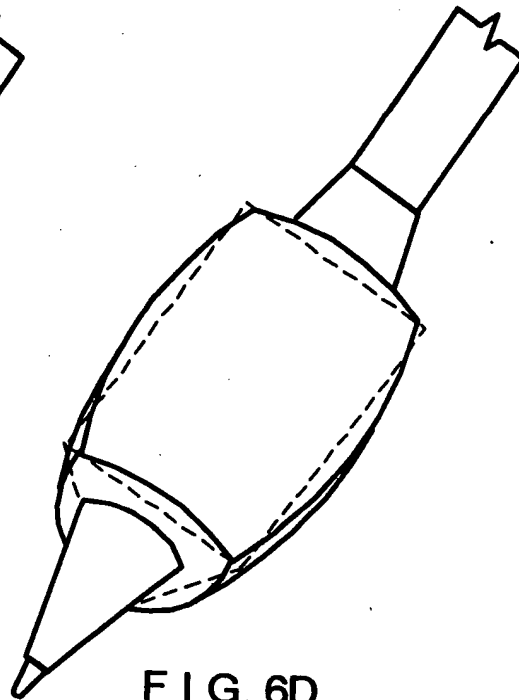


FIG. 6D